

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

6907

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - GDS

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI *25*
SUBJECT: Your Question About the Letter from Videla to You

The letter from President Videla of Argentina to you was dated October 11, 1977, but it was received by Bob Pastor at approximately 5:00 p.m. on October 18, 1977. Videla had asked the Embassy to deliver the letter directly to the National Security Council for delivery to you, but we informed the State Department immediately of its contents.

The letter referred to the case of the Deutsch family, which you raised in your discussion with President Videla. In the letter, Videla made several points:

- First, that Daniel Deutsch and his family had fled Argentina illegally, and that they were active members of the Communist Revolutionary Party. (According to our files, Daniel Deutsch and his wife left Argentina legally and are currently in the U.S.)
- That Daniel Deutsch's sister, Liliana, is also a member of the organization, and is in jail in Argentina.
- That their father, Alejandro Deutsch, covered up for both of his children.
- That for these reasons Alejandro and Liliana Deutsch are being held.
- And that the other three members of their family have been released.

Videla closed the letter by reaffirming the friendship between the Argentine and American people and saying that he would like to continue to have direct communication with you. We are incorporating a response to this letter within the context of a longer letter from you to President Videla which we are drafting referring to other important points in your conversation with him.

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Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP
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Exemptions b () () E.O. 13526 25x () ()
Declassify after
With concurrence of:
IPS by *25* obtained *not obt.*
Date *10-31-16*

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The President of Argentina

Buenos Aires, October 11, 1977

Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP

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His Excellency
James E. Carter
President of the
United States of America
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

Pursuant to our friendly agreement, made during our meeting in Washington, that we would maintain direct and informal channels of communication, I am pleased to send you this letter regarding one of the subjects which we discussed at our meeting. I refer to the case of the Deutsch family.

As a result of investigations conducted by the competent organizations, it has been established that:

Mr. Daniel Deutsch and his wife, who departed our country illegally, are active members of the Partido Comunista Revolucionario [Revolutionary Communist Party]. Their function in that illegal organization was to perform information and intelligence duties connected with the activity of terrorist groups operating in Argentina.

His sister Liliana belongs to the same subversive organization, working as an activist in the area of student affairs.

Mr. Alejandro Deutsch, father of the aforementioned, concealed the illegal activities of his children.

For the reasons stated above both Alejandro and Liliana Deutsch are under arrest and will be tried at an early date by the competent military courts.

Mrs. Alejandro Deutsch and her daughters, Elsa and Susana Silvia, have been released because it was established that they had no knowledge of or

connection with the illegal activities of the rest of the family.

I wish to assure Your Excellency of my deep and friendly interest in your administration and to reaffirm, once again, the friendship of the Argentine people for the people of the United States of America.

With warmest regards,

[Signature]

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Presidente de la Nación Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, 11 de octubre de 1977.

Excelentísimo Señor Presidente de los
 Estados Unidos de América
 D. James E. CARTER
WASHINGTON D.C.

Estimado Señor Presidente:

De acuerdo con lo que amigablemente conviniéramos durante nuestra reunión en Washington, en el sentido de mantener canales de comunicación directos e informales, me place enviarle estas líneas motivadas en uno de los temas que abordáramos en nuestro encuentro. Me refiero al caso de la familia Deutsch.

Como conclusión de las investigaciones efectuadas por los organismos competentes, se ha podido establecer que:

- El Sr. Daniel Deutsch y su esposa, que abandonaron ilegalmente nuestro país, son activos miembros del Partido Comunista Revolucionario.

Su función, dentro de la citada organización ilegal era la de efectuar tareas de Información e Inteligencia, vinculadas a la actividad de los grupos terroristas que actúan en el país.

- Su hermana Liliana pertenece a la misma organización subversiva, desempeñándose como activista en el ámbito estudiantil.
- El Sr. Alejandro Deutsch, padre de los anteriores, encubrió las actividades ilegales de sus hijos.
- Por tales razones, tanto Alejandro como Liliana Deutsch se encuentran detenidos a los efectos de ser sometidos, próximamente, a los Tribunales Militares competentes.

Presidente de la Nación Argentina

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- En cuanto a la señora de Alejandro Deutsch y sus hijas Elsa y Susana Silvia, han sido puestas en libertad al constatare que no tenían conocimiento ni vinculación alguna con las actividades ilegales del resto de la familia.

Quiero, al presentar a V.E. mi más afectuoso saludo, asegurarle el profundo y cordial interés con que acompaño su actuación y, una vez más, reafirmar la fraterna amistad de los argentinos por el pueblo de los Estados Unidos de América.

MEMORANDUM

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(cf 6879)

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CONFIDENTIAL - GDS

October 19, 1977

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI

FROM: ROBERT A. PASTOR *F*

SUBJECT: President's Request for Information on
Letter from Videla

Rick Inderfurth asked me to provide this information very quickly for you. I am working on the letters, but I expect that I will not be able to send them forward until I return from Panama -- which will not be until late Thursday night because of very poor flight connections.

A memorandum from you to the President is provided at Tab I.

*25 hand carried
to President
10/24/77*

~~Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP~~

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CONFIDENTIAL - GDS

ACTION S/S-S: Pace:

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

October 19, 1977

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COPIES TO:

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RF:WEB

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Peter Tarnoff
Executive Secretary
Department of State

SUBJECT: Letter from President Videla of
Argentina, dated October 11, 1977

Attached is a copy of a letter to the President from President Videla, which has just been received. Please provide a translation and comments as soon as possible. We plan to incorporate the President's response into the draft the Department has already provided.

Christine Dodson
Staff Secretary

Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/ERP
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BOX: 3

FOLDER: ARGENTINA, 1977-1978